MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

BOILING SPRING

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Bethlehem Church, Cleburne County, Ala., Sept. 9th, 10th and 11th, 1876.

OFFICERS :

T. H. HOWLE, Moderator.
J. H. FULLERTON, Clerk.

PRINTED AT OUR MOUNTAIN HOME JOB-OFFICE.

BETHLEHEM, CLEBURNE COUNTY, ALA., }
SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH, 1876, 11 O'CLOCK, A. M. }

1st. The Boiling Springs Baptist Association met according to adjournment, with Bethlehem Church.

2nd. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Marsel Garrette, from Ephesians 4 : 11. "And he gave some, Apostles, some, Prophets, and some, Evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers." Followed by Elder J. D. Jordan in prayer.

3rd. Adjourned for refreshments.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

4th. The Association assembled in the house; was called to order by Elder T. H. Howle. Prayer by Elder S. G. Jenkins.

5th. Brethren J. D. Jordan and T. J. Coleman were requested to receive, and brethren A. F. Allen and Graves Renfroe to read the letters from the various churches, which show the churches represented and the delegates from each.

Bethlehem—W. M. Hawkins, S. W. Bobo, J. H. Davis.
Bethsaida—J. H. Abel, J. T. Pinson, J. W McClintock.
Bethel—J. H. Armstrong, J. A. Kennedy, A. Leverette.
Christiana—A. A. Young, W. G. Preston, J. T. Thompson.
Ebenezer—N. Hughes, E. R. Conn, Jesse Mitchell.
Good Hope—W. W. Payne, Isaac Haynes, R. C. Miller*.
Hepsabah—S. W. Hingson*, J. H. Bowman, T. J. Strong.
Hopeful—G. Davis, F. Phillips*, J. W. Jones.
Mt. Moriah—W. H. Preston, Thomas Ellard, E. A. Smith.
Mt. Olive—Not represented.
Mt. Pisgah—E. D. Hanson, J. W. Dove, D. N. Hembree.
New Harmony—J. M. Hendon, W. Rhodes, L. B. Ingram.
Pleasant Hill—N. G. Muloy, J. L. Weathers, W. J. Beverly*.
Providence—Not represented.
Pleasant Grove, Clay Co.—Z. Jordan, W. W. Loe, J. Hardy.
Pleasant Grove, Cleburne Co.—Benny Mattox.
Ramah—T. W. Moon, J. M. Dillon, J. H. Fullerton.
Salt Creek—A. A. Adams*, J. F. Clarke, R. Wilkerson.
Union—F. M Dempsy, J. A. Dover.

6th. Called the roll.

7th. Proceed to a permanent organization by re-electing Elder T. H. Howle, M. D., and J. H. Fullerton clerk.

8th. Read the rules of decorum.

9th. Called for petitioning letters from churches desiring

membership, and received a letter with the following named brethren: Newton Hughes, E. R. Conn and Jessie Mitchell from Ebenezer church, Clay county, Ala.

10th. On motion, received Ebenezer church into this association.

11th. On motion, adopted the form of last year's minutes for the present session.

12th. Visiting ministers invited to seats with us.

13. Called for correspondents from associations.

From Cary, G B. Jenkins, Sr., J. M. Birchfield.

From Coosa River, S. G. Jenkins, Dr. S. C. Williams, D. Hines, W. Mashburn, Wm. Bigby, W. D. Wright, Graves Renfroe, George Manning, J. R. Graham, E. T. Smith, J. C. Wright.

From Harmony, M. R. Mathews.

14. Appointed a committee on preaching, viz: Brethren E. A. Smith, J. W. McClinock, T. J. Strong, with the deacons of Bethlehem church.

15. Suspended the regular order of business and requested Elder S. G. Jenkins to deliver an address on the progress of Baptist and rise of Anti-Missionism, at 2 o'clock to-morrow.

16. On motion, requested brethren Graves Renfroe, J. D. Jordan and Mansel Garrette to address tho body on the Centennial, Monday 10 o'clock.

17. Resumed the regular order of business.

18. Committee on preaching reported brother H. C. Knight to preach at candle-light; brother J. D. Jordan at 9 o'clock a. m. Sabbath.

19. Appointed a committee on Finance, viz: Brethren J. H. Abel, J. W. McClintock and W. W. Payne.

20. Prayer in behalf of the churches by Elder J. D. Jordan, and adjourned to meet Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Elder J. D. Jordan occupied the stand at 9 o'clock a. m.; at 11 o'clock the annual Missionary sermon was preached by Elder T. H. Howle from Mathew 28 : 19 20. Elder S. G. Jenkins delivered an interesting discourse on the progress of Baptist and rise of Anti-Missionism at 2 o'clock p. m. Services at early candle-light by Elder M. R. Mathews.

Monday, 9 O'clock, A. M.

21. The association assembled and was called to order at the appointed hour; prayer by brother J. M. Barrette.

22. Called the roll and marked absentees.
23. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.
24. Renewed the invitation to visiting ministers.
25. Renewed the call for correspondents.
26. Called for reports of standing committees.

Committee on Domestic Mission reported; report adopted. See appendix A.

Committee on the Bible excused.

Committee on Sabbath School reported; report adopted. See appendix B.

Committee on Obituaries reported; report adopted. See appendix C.

Committee on Temperance excused.

Committee on Queries reported; report adopted. See appendix D.

Committee on Executive Business reported; report adopted. See appendix E.

Committee on Publications excused.

Committee on Family Religion excused.

Committee to answer Queries reported on Query No. 2, and after discussion, participated in by Elders Smith, Garrette, Wright and others, the report was re-committed by appointing brother Mansel Garrette chairman.

27. On motion, suspended the regular order of business to receive correspondents, and received brother W. C. Ward from Cahaba association.

Committee on building College reported; report adopted. See appendix F.

Committee on Finance reported; report adopted. See appendix G.

Treasurers report adopted. See appendix H.

Committee on dividing the association into districts reported; report adopted. See appendix I.

28. On motion, the association adjourned to hear the address of the Centennial committee, which was responded to by brethren Graves Renfroe and W. C. Ward, in a fresh, interesting way, which secured the undivided attention of all present.

MONDAY EVENING, 2 O'CLOCK.

The association was called to order by the moderator; prayer by A. F. Allen.

Appointed correspondents to other associations:

[illegible]y—Brethren J. D. Jordan, A. F. Allen, [illegible], Z[illegible]dan, Mansel Garrette.

Coosa River—J. G. Nall, W. O. Jenkins, J. M. Barrette.

Ten Island, Tallaseehatchee—Brethren, J. H. Abel, G. Davis, J. M. Barrette, L. B. Ingram W. Rhodes.

Arbecoochee—Brethren, W. G. Preston, T. J. Coleman, D. J Dodd, J. H. Abel, J. A. Kennedy.

Harmony—Brethren, J. M. Hendon, W. O. Jenkins, H. C. Knight, L. B. Ingram, E. Miller, Benny Mattox.

31. On motion, went into election of ministers to preach the Introductory and Missionary sermons at the next session of this body, and elected Elder M. J. Sorrell to preach the Introductory, Elder A. F. Allen alternate, Elder J. D. Jordan to preach the Missionary sermon, Elder A. T. Allen, alternate.

32. Appointed the following committees to report at the next session of this body.

On Domestic Missions—W O. Jenkins, H C. Knight, W. G. Preston.

On the Bible—A. F. Allen, T. J. Strong, T. J. Morrison.

On Sabbath Schools—F. M. Campbell, J. M. Barrette, W. M. Hawkins.

On Obituaries—E. Miller, Z. Jordan, Marion Dempsey.

On Temperance—J. D. Jordan, M. J Sorrell, J. A. Kennedy.

On Queries—D. J. Dodd, N. V. Hughes, D. Hembree.

On Executive—J. Abel, W. W. Payne, W. H. Preston.

On Publications—J. G. Nall, J. M. Campbell, J. M. Hendon.

On Family Religion—T. J. Coleman, J. Chandler, J. W. Bowman.

To answer Queries—E. A. Smith, A. Leverette, C. Davis.

33. On motion, appointed J. W. McClintock Treasurer.

34. On motion appointed a committee to divide the Association into districts, viz: A. F. Allen, J D. Jordan, T. J. Coleman.

35. On motion, appointed a committee to revise the present constitution of this Association, viz: Brethren Mansel Garrett, A. F. Allen, E. A. Smith, W. O. Jenkins, J. D. Jordan.

36. *Resolved*, That the next session of this body be held with Christiana church eight miles south-east of Delta, embracing the second sabbath in September, 1877.

37. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered to the brethren and friends of Bethlehem church for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay among them.

38. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be instructed

to expend all the means in the hands of the Treasurer in supplying the destitution of Horse Creek

39. *Resolved*, That each church of this body send five delegates to the district meeting.

40. *Resolved*, That the Clerk have as many copies of this minute printed as the means in his hands will allow and distributed among the churches, prorata, to the amount contributed by each church.

41. On motion, read and adopted the minute.

The business of the association being over, an appropriate hymn was sung, the parting hand extended, and amidst a deep religious feeling, the association adjourned to time and place above mentioned.

T. H. HOWLE,
MODERATOR.

J. H. FULLERTON,
CLERK.

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(A.) *REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.*

Your committee on Domestic Missions would call your attention to the destitution on Horse Creek. We think the association should send a missionary to preach there. Respectfully submitted,

J. M. BARRETTE, Ch'm.

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(B.) *REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.*

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, must confess that we feel our entire incompetency to discharge the great and important duty enjoined upon us, but since we feel that a failure on our part to make an effort, would be almost, if not quite, inexcusable, we most respectfully invite your attention to the following as our report:

First, That the Sabbath School is one of the most important institutions ever organized among the children of men; that such is true we dare say, that no one who has any thing like a correct idea of its design, and a knowledge of the beneficial results which have and which are yearly arising therefrom, will for once pretend to deny When we but for one moment contemplate the immense value of an immortal soul, and then ferret out the important design in establishing such an institution on earth, we cannot conceive of any other institution among the children of men which is of a greater importance to any community than is a regularly organized and properly and well conducted Sabbath School. There can be no doubt but that

there are numbers of the brightest, most zealous, and earnest christians on earth, who if interogated in reference to their earliest impressions on the subject of religion, and as to where they first obtained a knowledge of those sublime truths inscribed upon the sacred pages, would at once reply the Sabbath School.

Truly, the Sabbath School is the nursery where the young and tender twig (if we may be allowed the expression) is twined and prepared to grow upright. 'Tis in the Sabbath School that the little boy and girl may have their young and tender minds stored with useful knowledge. 'Tis there that the young man and young lady may learn to obey the Divine injunction spoken by the wise man which requires them without delay to "remember their Creator in the days of their youth." The great commission given by Christ to his apostles was (as we find it inscribed upon the sacred page by one of the evangelist,) "to go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Now we readily perceive from this commission, that the nations should be taught before they could become fit subjects for Christ's Kingdom on earth, and hence before they could be entitled to a crown of righteousness, and to an inheritance with Christ and his saints in the climes of ultimate glory.

Now, if we, your committee, have just and adequate conceptions in regard to the design for which Sabbath Schools are or should be organized, it is for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the Scriptures of Divine Truth, and hence to learn the ways of true holiness Not only is the Sabbath School beneficial in acquiring a knowledge of the Scriptures of Divine truth, but it is an institution from which no one is bared in consequence of their being in indigent circumstance. It is an institution of learning for the poor as well as the rich, without money and without price. Thousands who are in destitute circumstances, and who cannot attend the common schools for want of means to pay their way in obtaining a knowledge of books, might if they would but avail themselves of opportunities offered in Sabbath Schools, when properly conducted, (in a few years) acquire a considerable knowledge, not only of the word of God, but of other useful books. How vastly important is the Sabbath School, and yet how indifferent and unconcerned are many who profess to be lovers of learning, and who claim to be earnestly engaged in the great,

grand, and glorious cause of the blessed Redeemer. Surely such indifference ought not to be exhibited on the part of any true lover of Zion. Some might say, I have a zeal for Chirst and earnestly desire the diffusion of light and knowledge, but I feel my inefficiency to instruct others, and consequently I will stay at home and let others who are more competent attend the Sunday School. Such an excuse however, is not sufficient; it is not simply enjoined upon the christian that he or she, as the case may be, should be a teacher. Christ never designed that all should be teachers of his word, but we are plainly taught from the sacred page that their are gifts differing. The apostle tells us that there are some evangelists, some prophets and some apostles, and moreover, we are led to conclude, that all who are interested in the noble and grand cause of the Son of God, and who would lend a helping hand in pushing forward the great work of evangelizing the world, should make manifest their desires in one way or another; remembering that the apostles says, "That faith without works is dead; you show me thy faith without thy work and I will show you my faith by my works." If then it be admitted that some are incompetent to teach in the Sabbath School, we feel that it is their imperative duty to give it all their encouragement at least by attending themselves, and by influencing others to do likewise. Another quotation from the Scriptures and a few remarks therefrom, and we will have done our report on this important and interesting subject. The quotation to which we now invite your attention is a portion of the word of God which was addressed to certain individuals who in all probability believed that they understood the prophecies, but whom Christ assured that they did not, and said to them, "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." Now the question naturely suggests itself to the mind of every intelligent man and woman who reads this Scriptural quotation as to what Christ meant when he said "Search the Scriptures," and no sooner does the question propound itself than the response comes, which to investigate and diligently inquire into those sacred truths which are inscribed upon the pages of inspiration. We have simply made this quotation believing the Sabbath School to be an institution intended chiefly for the purpose of gaining Bibical knowledge, and thereby promoting the cause of christianity and to show those who may feel their

incompetency to teach or take any active part, may themselves be benefited by becoming pupils. Then, dear brethren, since we find that the Sabbath School is an institution of so great importance, let one and all double our energies and prove ourselves not to be so indifferent in the future as we have been in the past, ever praying God to bless us and all who may be engaged in this great work. A F. ALLEN, Ch'm.

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(C.) REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Your committee on obituaries submit the following report: We are informed of no deaths of either ministers or deacons in our bounds, for which we should feel thankful to our All-wise Creator. W. H. PRESTON, Ch'm.

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(D.) REPORT ON QUERIES.

Your committee on Queries would report that there has been no Query submitted to us. H. C. KNIGHT, Ch'm.

——:o:——

(E.) REPORT ON EXECUTIVE BUSINESS.

Your committee on executive business submit the following report: Whereas, we have not been apprised of any destitution within our bounds; there has been nothing done in the work. J. W. MCCLINTOCK, Ch'm.

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(F.) REPORT OF BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Your committee on building a College for the association submit the following: Owing to the scarcity of money and pressure of the times, we think best to suspend farther operations at present. JER. STEPHENS, Ch'm.

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(G.) REPORT ON DIVIDING THE ASSO. INTO DIST.

Your committee to whom was conferred the honor of dividing the association into districts submit the following: We divided the association into three districts.

1st Dist.—Bethlehem, Hopeful, Salt Creek, Mt. Pisgah, Providence, Ebenezer, Union.

2nd Dist. Bethel, Bethsaida, Hepsabah, Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Grove, Clebu ne Co., New Harmony.

3rd Dist. Mt. Moriah, Mt. Olive, Ramah, Christiania, Pleasant Grove, Clay Co., Good Hope.

The meeting in the first district will be held at Bethlehem on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in June, 1877.

The meeting in second district will be held at Bethsaida Church on Friday before the fifth Sabbath in July, 1877.

The meeting in third district will be held at Mt. Moriah Church on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July 1877.

A. F. Allen, Ch'm.

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(H.) *REPORT ON FINANCE.*

We, your Financial Committee beg leave to report we find

for minute fund	$ 24.15
Clerk fee	5.20
Total	29.35

J. H. Abel, Ch'm.

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(I.) *TREASURERS REPORT.*

J. W. McClintock, Treasurer, in account with Boiling Spring Association.

	Dr.	
Sept —To Domestic Missions on hand		$ 11,50
Cash received from finance committee for minutes		24,15
Clerks fee		5,20
		40,85
By cash paid J. H. Fullerton, Clerk for the Association for minutes	$ 24,15	
By cash paid J. H. Fullerton for Clerk fee	5,20	
		29,35

Balance on hand domestic mission fund..$ 11,50.

J. W. McClintock, Treasurer.

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES:

A F Allen, Oxford,
J M Barrette, Munford,
F M Campbell, Chulafinee,
J W Chandler, Chulafinee,
J T Coleman, Chulafinee,
Mansell Garrette, Oxford,
T H Howle, Delta,
J D Jordan, Delta,
W O Jenkins, Delta,
H C Knight, Delta,
E Miller, Chulafinee,
J G Nall, Munford,
J M Sorrell, Chulafinee,
Jas A Shadix, Delta,
D J Dodd, Chulafinee.

LICENTIATES:

W J Campbell, Chulafinee,
W W Coleman, Chulafinee,
E Z T Davis, Oxford,
M F McClintock, Delta,
M V Steadhem, Delta,
A P Hanson, Oxford,
T J Morison, Delta,
Jer. Stephens, Delta,
P L Smith, Munford,
T T Thomas, Munford.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR THE YEAR 1876.

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	By whom Supplied.	P. O.	CLERK'S ADDRESS.	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Granted letters	Excluded	Dead	Total	Sabbath meeting	Minute Fund	Clerks Fee
Bethlehem	Cleburne	J M Sorrell	Oxford	J H Davis, Beans Gap	0	5	2	8	7	1	61	3	200	100
Bethsaida		W O Jenkins	Chulafinee	J W McClintock, Chulafinee	6	7	0	0	1	0	39	4	100	50
Bethel	Clay		Chulafinee	U E Humphries, Chulafinee	0	3	0	5	0	0	83	2	200	100
Christiana	Randolph	T H Howle	Delta	T Thompson, Christiana	3	2	1	1	1	0	40	4	170	00
Ebenezer	Clay	J G Nall	Munford	Newton Hughes, Munford	13	7	0	0	0	0	20		75	00
Good Hope	Clay	T H Howle	Delta	M F McClintock, Delta	7	3	1	2	0	0	50	1	200	50
Hepsabah	Cleburne	D J Dodd	Chulafinee	S W Hingson, Chulafinee	11	1	0	6	2	0	24	3	250	50
Hopeful	Talladega	J M Barrette	Munford	W A Barrette, Munford	6	5	0	0	1	1	44	1	100	00
Mt Olive	Clay	Not represented	Delta											
Mt Moriah	Clay		Delta	E A Smith, Delta	7	6	1	3	1	0	81	1	275	50
Mt Pisgah	Cleburne	J W Chandler	Oxford	D M Hembre, Oxford	1	1	0	4	3	0	18	1	100	50
New Harmony	Cleburne	H C Knight	Corn Grave	J M Herndon, Corn Grove	1	15	0	13	2	0	43	3	150	20
Pleasant Hill		T M Campbell	Chulafinee	W J Beverly, Chulafinee	0	2	1	2	0	0	37	1	190	00
Pleasant Grove	Clay	H C Knight	Lineville	W H Garrette Lineville	2	3	0	20	6	1	66	2	75	00
Pleasant Grove	Cleburne	No Letters	Chulafinee											
Providence	Clay		Talladega											
Ramah	Clay	T H Howle	Delta	J H Fullerton, Delta	0	3	0	7	1	0	45	3	200	150
Salt Creek	Talladega	J W Chandler	Munford		0	8	6	1	0	0	30		130	00
Union	Clay	J J Shadix	Flint Hill	F M Dempsy Flint Hill	0	10	0	0	3	0	33			
Total					57	81	12	72	28	3	774	29	24,15	5,20